

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Restriction

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I

Claims 1-6 and 8-12, drawn to a process for producing a basic aluminum halide complex.

Group II

Claims 7 and 13-20, drawn to mixture and an antiperspirant comprising a basic aluminum halide complex and at least one antiperspirant active ingredient.

The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical feature for the following reasons: the common technical

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feature in all groups is a basic aluminum halide complex. This element does not constitute a special technical feature under PCT Rule 13.2 because the element is shown in prior art. Giovanniello et al. (US Patent 4871525) teach an antiperspirant composition and method of preparation (see title) using a basic aluminum halide (column 2, lines 20-25). The invention of the instant application lacks a special corresponding technical feature and does not make a contribution to the prior art. Therefore, the claims cannot be said to have unity of invention.

A telephone call was made to Tod A. Waldrop on September 8, 2008 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Conclusion

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from

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the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR Only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Courtney Brown, whose telephone number is 571-270-3284. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on 571-272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Johann R. Richter/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1616